Preparing for our Graduate Program

The majority of applicants applying to our program have a BA or BS in Psychology. Those without a BA/BS in Psychology must have a solid course of academic undergraduate psychology courses, including psychological statistical coursework. Those who do not meet the following preparation should not apply to our program.

**Psychological Statistics/Methods Preparation (must be taken at a 4-year university)**

All applicants must have completed two (2) upper division psychology methods and statistics courses with a grade of C or better prior to applying to the program.

This requirement is met with PSYC 121 and PSYC 102 at Sacramento State, or their equivalents at other universities. Course equivalents must have included research methods, in which students have analyzed a dataset and written an APA paper. They must also have included descriptive and complex inferential statistics such as factorial ANOVAs, mixed model ANOVAs, ANCOVAs, MANOVAS, planned and unplanned comparisons, factorial analysis, and multiple regression. Courses without these elements are not approved.

**Lower Division Preparation (may be taken at a community college or 4-year university)**

- Introductory Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 2)
- Methods of Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 8)
- Statistics for Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 9)
Upper Division Preparation (must be taken at a 4-year university)

Two courses from the following

- Perception (Sac State: PSYC 103)
- Learning Theories (Sac State: PSYC 104)
- Cognitive Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 110)

Three courses from the following

- Social Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 145)
- Personality Theories (Sac State: PSYC 130)
- Developmental Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 148, PSYC 149, or PSYC 150)
- History and Systems of Psychology (Sac State: PSYC 190)

ABA Applicants Only

All ABA Applicants are recommended to have prior course work in Applied Behavior Analysis prior to applying to the program. This could be achieved by taking PSYC 171 at Sacramento State, or an equivalent at another university. Applicants without Applied Behavior Analysis coursework will still be considered but may be asked to take PSYC 171 during their first year of graduate school.

Note: We do not pre-review student transcripts. Please check your transcripts against this list of course work to determine if you still wish to apply.